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AIR COMMAND AND STAFF COLLEGE

AIR UNIVERSITY

CONTRACTING INTEGRATION WITHIN THE AIR FORCE
BATTLELABS

(A WEB PAGE DESIGN)

by

Daniel L. Demott, Major, USAF

A Research Report Submitted to the Faculty

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Advisor: Major Michael R. Foster

Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama

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Abstract

The purpose of this project was to develop a useable web page to assist three different parties within the Air Force Battlelab community: battlelab personnel, AF contracting, and contractors looking for business opportunities with these battlelabs.

With the establishment of the Air Force Battlelabs, a discussion ensued about how to best establish contracting support for each of them. After all six of the battlelabs were stood up and manned, only the Air Expeditionary Force Battlelab maintains a permanently assigned contracting officer for support. The other battlelabs get their contracting support from either the local contracting squadron, or from a contracting center, that has similar interests to that of the battlelab.

This web page provides assistance to three different groups in relation to the battlelabs: Battlelab personnel are those members of each of the six battlelabs, Air Force contracting personnel whose job it is to assist the battlelabs, and contractors who are looking to do business with the battlelabs. The web page is designed as a first point of contact and to provide helpful information to each of the three parties. An Internet search was conducted and integrated within the web site to facilitate easy access to and within the battlelabs to enhance business opportunities.

Chapter 1

Description of Web Page

Introduction

This chapter starts with a short discussion of the general issues of the web page development followed by the specific problem statement, and project objectives. It further discusses the description and installation requirements of the web page, then ends with the project limitations and possible future research applications.

General Issues

The Air Force battlelabs came into existence in 1997 to provide for a quick means to identify innovative ideas and to measure how well those ideas contribute to the mission of the Air Force. The Air Force chose six battlelabs. The six battlelabs are designed to be small, focused, and rely on field innovation. Along with the development came the need to identify how the battlelabs were going to get their contracting support ¹

Problem Statement

Once the battlelabs were established, there was much discussion among battlelab and contracting personnel on how to best get contracting support. They identified the need for support but the battlelabs were not sure if they needed a contracting officer permanently attached, or supported from the host base contracting office.

Project Objectives

The overall reason for this project was the perceived need for melding contracting within the battlelab environment. The battlelab's mission is to "Rapidly identify and prove the worth of innovative ideas which improve the ability of the Air Force to execute its Core Competencies in support of Joint Vision 2010 & Joint Warfighting." With this rapid identification comes the need for streamlined procedures both within the Battlelabs and contracting. This fast paced marriage will work for getting the innovative ideas and technology from the idea stage to actual usage. Here the contracting community needs to work closely and have at its disposal all the tools necessary for execution. With a lot of battlelab contracting information in this web site, the time to innovation practice is reasoned to be much less.

In addition to a broad speed increase, this web page project was started with three goals in mind. The first goal was to give the battlelab personnel an easy point of reference for finding general contracting knowledge and where to get contracting help if needed. The second goal was to give contracting specialists attempting to help the battlelabs a single location for increasing their battlelab knowledge. The third goal was to assist the contractors trying to do business with the battlelabs, again with a single starting point to get familiar with the battlelabs, and find the contracting instruments needed to present the contractor's proposals.

Scope of Project

The web page is not meant to be an end all product. The intent is to give a broad starting point for an integration of contracting within the battlelab environment. It is intended to consolidate the way in which contracting information is made available to the

battlelabs, Air Force contracting personnel and to contractors seeking business opportunities within the battlelabs.

Description and Installation of Web Page

The web page was designed using Microsoft Front Page 98 (FP). There are peculiarities to FP that require certain FP file extensions be included when publishing the web page to a web site. Therefore, this web site requires a formal upload from within FP to work properly. There is hidden hypertext markup language (javascript) that is uneditable by the web page creator without extensive java script knowledge. The author was able to transfer the product from a home computer to the school provided laptop without too much difficulty. There are two nuances that seem to be a regular occurrence when transferring data not using the FP internal publishing method. When copying the web page down to a disk the default home page's name would be changed from "default" to "index." This was easily corrected by renaming the document on the disk before uploading it to the laptop. The other nuance is the inability of the default web page to be identified by the other internal web pages. At times the "home" link points to the actual file folder that contains the default page. The only remedy here is to then double click on the "default.htm" file name. This action will bring you back to the actual home page.

The project is a straightforward running web page that should work with any normal web server. The FP program file extensions are such that the entire web page is a fairly small data file. Therefore, there are no minimum system requirements beyond the ability to run a normal web browser.

Installation of the program is accomplished by uploading the information to an existing web server. This is easily done through FP by simply selecting the "publish

web” button within the program. It has been tested and works without error with Microsoft’s Internet Explorer 4.0 and 5.0. The entire “zipped” file can also be installed directly to any web server. However, the previously mentioned nuances will occur.

Once the file is installed on a server, or on a personal computer, you start the program by opening the “default.htm” page. This is the home page anchor for the web site, and is the gateway to the entire site. You can then navigate throughout the web site as you would any other site.

Project Limitations and Future Research Applications

This project is meant to be a starting point from which to build and or accompany other existing web sites. Several web sites exist that aid in the battlelab environment, but the author did not find specific information in one place that integrated the contracting and battlelab aspect. There is a great deal of contracting information that could contribute to the battlelabs ability to complete their mission. Both the contracting and battlelab communities should build a more refined focal point that will facilitate an exchange of ideas.

A specific area of concentration should be a single page of accepted and ongoing evaluation of projects. Right now, each battlelab has their own page of successes, so finding out what technology is being accepted by whom is a tedious affair. There should also be some effort from the contracting community to share it’s experiences with different battlelab contract agreements and nuances associated with technology innovation.

Notes

¹ AF/XORBB Web Site

Appendix A

<u>Links</u>	<u>In Page</u>	<u>Page Title</u>
http://battlelabs.monroe.army.mil/locat	forcesbl.htm	Armed Forces BL Links
http://farsite.hill.af.mil/reghtml/affars	solesce.htm	Sole Source
http://ndcweb.navy.mil/MBC/index.htm	forcesbl.htm	Armed Forces BL Links
http://www.afrl.af.mil/ird/index.htm	crda_tec.htm	CADA and Tech Page
http://www.afrl.af.mil/sbir/index.htm	crda_tec.htm	CRDA and Tech Page
http://www.afrl.af.mil/techconn/index	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hndbk
http://www.afrl.af.mil/techconn/index	crda_tec.htm	CADA and Tech Page
http://www.afrl.af.mil/techtran/index	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hndbk
http://www.jbc.js.mil/	lorcesbl.htm	Armed Forces BL Links
http://www.mcwl.org/mcwl-new	torcesbl.htm	Armed Forces BL Links
http://www.ntsc.navy.mil/navair/Part	crda_tec.htm	CRDA and Tech Page
5306. 304-92.htm	5306. 304-82.htm	5306.304-92
ratify.htm	blpers.htm	BL Personnel
datarigt.htm	blpers.htm	BL Personnel
BAA.htm	blpers.htm	BL Personnel
crda_tec.htm	blpers.htm	BL Personnel
afcon.htm	blpers.htm	BL Personnel
afcon.htm	blpers.htm	BL Personnel
solesce.htm	blpers.htm	BL Personnel
5306_304_91.htm	5306_304_81.htm	5306.304-81
5306_303-4_290.htm	5306_304_290.htm	5306.303-304
default.htm	te_index.htm	Project #99-041
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hndbk
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hndbk
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhflbk.htm	Tech Trans Hnrlbk
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhribk.htm	Tech Trans Hndbk
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hndbk
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hndbk
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hndbk
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hndbk
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hndbk
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hndbk
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hndbk

<u>Links</u>	<u>In Page</u>	<u>Page Title</u>
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hndbk
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hndbk
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhnbk~htm	Tech Trans Hndhk
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hridbk
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hnclbk
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hndbk
Battlelab Info/Tech Transfer Hnd Bk	techhnbk.htm	Tech Trans Hndbk
datarigt.htm	27_409.htm	FAR 27.409
techhnbk.htm	crda_tec.htm	CRDA and Tech Page
solesce.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
solesce.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
solesce.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
solesce.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
solesce.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
solesce.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
5306_303-4_290.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
5306_303-4_290.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
5306_303-4_290.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
5306_303-4_290.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
5306_303-4_280.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
5306_30_4_290.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
5306_304_91.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
5306_304-92.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
5306_304-93.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
5306_501.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
5306_501.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
solesce.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
solesce.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
solesce.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
solesce.htm	solesce.htm	Sole Source
reason.htm	default.htm	Contracting in AF BL
construction.gif	BAAcur.htm	Current BAAs
default.htm	forcesbl.htm	Armed Forces BL Links
links.htm	forcesbl.htm	Armed Forces BL Links
datangt.htm	27_407-8.htm	FAR 27.407-8
datangt.htm	27_407-8.htm	FAR 27.407-8
datarigt.htm	27_6.htm	FAR 27.6
datarigt.htm	27_404.htm	27.404

<u>Links</u>	<u>In Page</u>	<u>Page Title</u>
5306-501 .htm	5306-501.htm	AFFAR 5306.501
datarigt.htm	27_405.htm	FAR 27.405
datarigt.htm	datarigt.htm	Proprietary
datarigt.htm	datarigt.htm	Proprietary
datarigt.htm	datarigt.htm	Proprietary
datarigt.htm	datarigt.htm	Proprietary
27_404.htm	datarigt.htm	Proprietary
27_405.htm	datarigt.htm	Proprietary
27_406.htm	datarigt.htm	Proprietary
27_407-8.htm	datarigt.htm	Proprietary
27_407-8.htm	datarigt.htm	Proprietary
27_409.htm	datarigt.htm	Proprietary
27_6.htm	datarigt.htm	Proprietary
datarigt.htm	datarigt.htm	Proprietary
datarigt.htm	datarigt.htm	Proprietary
http://www.c2b.hurlburt.af.mil/Ideas	contract.htm	Contractors
BAAcur.htm	contract.htm	Contractors
crda_tec.htm	contract.htm	Contractors
http://lackland.af.mil/afsf/battlelab	contract.htm	Contractors
http://cbdnet.gpo.gov/	contract.htm	Contractors
http://ccr.edi.disa.mil/ccragent/plsql/	contract.htm	Contractors
http://defenseink.mil/other_info	contract.htm	Contractors
http://nais.nasa.gov/fedproc/home.htm	contract.htm	Contractors
http://hq.af.mil/xo/afbattlelab/in	general.htm	General Info
blmap.htm	general.htm	General Info
http://www.c2b.hurlburt.af.mil/Kenney	general.htm	General Info
http://www.c2b.hurlburt.af.mil/Mitchel	general.htm	General Info
BAA.htm	general.htm	General Info
crda_tec.htm	general.htm	General Info
crda_tec.htm	general.htm	General Info
http://www.lackland.af.mil/afsf/battlelab	general.htm	General Info
forcesBL.htm	links.htm	Links
http://www.safaq.hq.af.mil/contracting	links.htm	Links
http://www.af.mil/	links.htm	Links
http://www.hq.af.mil/xo/afbattlelab/	links.htm	Links
afcon.htm	links.htm	Links
http://www.safaq.hq.af.mil/contracting	links.htm	Links
BLmap.jpg	blmap.htm	Map of Battlelab Locat

<u>Links</u>	<u>In Page</u>	<u>Page Title</u>
http://www.afiw.c.aia.af.mil/who/dir	blmap.htm	Map of Battlelab Locat
http://www.wg53.eglin.af.mil/battlelab	blmap.htm	Map of Battlelab Locat
http://www.c2bhurlburt.af.mil/	blmap.htm	Map of Battlelab Locat
http://www.lackland.af.mil/afsf	blmap.htm	Map of Battlelab Locat
http://www.schriever.af.mil/battlelab	blmap.htm	Map of Battlelab Locat
http://www.mountainhome.af.mil/AEF	blmap.htm	Map of Battlelab Locat
http://www.mountainhome.af.mil/AEF	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.mountainhome.af.mil/AEF	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.mountainhome.af.mil/AEF	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.c2b.hurlburt.af.mil/	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.c2b.hurlburt.af.mil/Contact	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.lackland.af.mil/afsf/	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.lackland.af.mil/afsf/battlelab	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://afiwc.aia.af.mil/who/directory	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.schriever.af.mil/battlelab	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.eglin.af.mil/battlelab	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.wg53.eglin.af.mil/battlelab	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.hq.af.mil/xo/afbattlelab/xorb	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.safaq.hq.af.mil/contracting	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
BAA..htm	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://fedlaw.gsa.gov/fedfra25.htm	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
crda_tec.htm	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.acc.af.mil/public/lg/lgc/	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://contracting.aetc.af.mil	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.il.hq.af.mil/aflma/lgc/lgc	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.afmc.wpafb.af.mil/public/	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.spacecom.af.mil/hqafs	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://scoisntw01.scott.af.mil/hqamc/	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.usafe.af.mil/direct/lg/lgc	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.usafa.af.mil/lg/lgc/	afcon.htm	AF Contracting
http://www.hqpacaf.af.mil/lg/lgc/def	afcon.htm	AF Contracting

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<http://www.hq.af.mil/xo/battlelab/xorpb.htm>
Ibid

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